

City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

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TO: Deborah Gaskin, Director
Board of Ethics

FROM: Irvin Corley, Jr., Fiscal Analysis Director

DATE: April 28, 2008

RE: 2008-09 Budget Analysis

24.

Attached is our budget analysis regarding your department's budget for the upcoming 2008-2009 Fiscal Year.

Please be prepared to respond to the issues/questions raised in our analysis during your scheduled hearing. We would then appreciate a written response to the issues/questions at your earliest convenience subsequent to your budget hearing. Please forward a copy of your responses to the Councilmembers and the City Clerk's Office.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding our budget analysis.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

IC:ss

Attachment

cc: Councilmembers
Council Divisions
Auditor General's Office
Pamela Scales, Budget Department Director
Norman White, Finance Department Director
Ron Chenault, Budget Department Team Leader
Kerwin Wimberly, Mayor's Office

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Board of Ethics

FY 2008-2009 Budget Analysis by the Fiscal Division

Summary

In City Charter Section 2-106 Standards of Conduct, the Board of Ethics (Board) was established as an independent board. The Board of Ethics consists of seven members of the public: three appointed by City Council; three appointed by the Mayor; and one jointly appointed by the Mayor and City Council. Board members serve without compensation. The City Council first enacted the Ethics Ordinance in 2000, and the ordinance was amended in 2006.

The Board issues advisory opinions on the meaning and application of provisions of the Charter, City ordinances or other laws or regulations establishing standards of conduct for elective officers, appointees, or employees. An elective officer, appointee, or employee renders advisory opinions upon written request. The Board annually in a report to the Mayor and City Council publishes advisory opinions. The opinions shall not disclose the identity of the elective officers, appointees, or employees concerned.

The Mayor's Proposed Budget for 2008-2009 includes appropriations \$272,931 in the City's Non-Departmental Agency, which is an increase of \$17,915 or 7.0% from fiscal year 2007-2008. There are no budgeted revenues.

2007-2008 Surplus/(Deficit)

There is no estimated surplus or deficit for the Board.

Overtime

The Mayor's Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2008-2009 does not budget any overtime for the Board, which is unchanged for fiscal year 2007-2008. As of March 31, 2008, the Board has no overtime expense.

Personnel and Turnover Savings

There are no projected personnel or turnover savings for the Board.

Proposed Layoffs and Position Changes

The Mayor's Proposed Budget for 2008-2009 does not include any layoffs or changes in the number of FTE's budgeted for the Board which is two.

Significant Funding Changes in Appropriation

<u>Appro.</u>	<u>Program</u>	
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10397	Board of Ethics	The Mayor recommends a total fiscal year 2008-2009 budgeted appropriation of \$272,031 for the Board of Ethics, which is an increase of \$17,915 (7.0%) from the current year's budget of \$255,016. The \$17,915 increase is a result of a rise of \$15,667 in salaries, \$5,355 in benefits, \$893 Operating Services and a decrease of \$4,000 in Other Expenses.
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Issues and Questions

1. What are the Board of Ethics' plans to make City public servants, politicians, appointees, and employees, more aware of the Ethics Ordinance and its impact on their work and City operations?
2. The \$5,000 for Training that was included in the Board of Ethics' fiscal year 2007-2008 budget was eliminated in the Mayor's 2008-2009 Proposed Budget. What was the training for, and was the training scheduled and taken?
3. Is the Board of Ethics planning any educational and training programs for the fiscal year 2008-2009?
4. Please provide a copy of the most recent annual report prepared by the Board of Ethics.